

Message Text

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S E C R E T MADRID 0502

NODIS

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM MCCLOSKEY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, SP, US

SUBJECT: SPANISH BASE NEGOTIATIONS

REF: SECTO 1040

1. BY CLOSE OF TODAY, WHICH INCLUDED MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER AREILZA, PHASE OUT OF SSBNS HAS EMERGED AS PRINCIPAL UNRESOLVED ISSUE. THREE ISSUES AREILZA RAISED WITH YOU ARE EITHER RESOLVED OR CLOSE TO RESOLUTION. YOUR DECISION TO GO FOR A TREATY IS ONE. AREILZA'S WILLINGNESS TO ADD EX-IM CREDITS TO TAKE TOTAL OVER BILLION MARK IS ANOTHER AND AREILZA HAS NOW AGREED TO LANGUAGE WHICH CAME UP IN DISCUSSION STABLER AND I HAD WITH HIM, WHICH WE BELIEVE SHOULD POSE NO PROBLEMS WITH NATO. IT OMITTS PHRASE "MEMBERS OF" WHICH YOU QUESTIONED IN REFTEL. TEXT AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE FOR THE PURPOSE OF OBTAINING THE MAXIMUM EFFECTIVENESS IN COOPERATION FOR WESTERN DEFENSE, THE UNITED STATES-SPANISH COUNCIL, AS ONE OF ITS BASIC OBJECTIVES, WILL WORK TOWARD DEVELOPMENT OF APPROPRIATE COORDINATION WITH THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION. IN FURTHERANCE OF THIS PURPOSE, THE COUNCIL WILL ESTABLISH BY MUTUAL AGREEMENT A COMMISSION FORMED

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BY MEMBERS OF THE TWO CONTRACTING PARTIES WHICH SHALL

PROPOSE TO THE COUNCIL SPECIFIC MEASURES TO PROMOTE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MEANINGFUL COORDINATION. END QUOTE.

2. SPANISH NOW INSIST SSBNS MUST BE WITHDRAWN JANUARY 1979. I OFFERED JANUARY 1980. AREILZA SAID MILITARY MINISTERS IN GOVERNMENT INSISTING ON THE EARLIER PHASE OUT DATE, POSSIBLY TO EXTRACT MORE QUID WHICH I HAVE MADE CLEAR WILL NOT BE FORTHCOMING.

3. THE LAST ISSUE IS F-4 SWAP DEAL. TO GET BEST POSSIBLE TERMS FROM US THE GOS INSISTING THAT THE TANKER DETACHMENT WOULD HAVE TO PHASE OUT WITH SSBNS. I BELIEVE PHASE OUT REQUEST ON THE DETACHMENT WILL FALL AWAY IF WE CAN AGREE TO A GOOD LEASE/SALE DEAL ON THE F-4'S.

4. I WILL COME TO BRUSSELS TOMORROW. FOLLOWING ARE SOME TALKING POINTS FOR USE WITH NATO MINISTERS.

QUOTE I WOULD HOPE KEY ALLIES WOULD ACCEPT SUCH LANGUAGE, OR PUBLICLY SUPPORT IT IF IT WERE PUBLICLY CRITICIZED BY CERTAIN ALLIES SUCH AS NETHERLANDS, NORWAY OR DENMARK, ON GROUNDS THAT:

-- TREATY IS STRICTLY BILATERAL.

-- LANGUAGE DOES NOT COMMIT ANY ALLY TO DO ANYTHING.

-- NO RPT NO SPECIFIC TIME FRAME SET FOR ACHIEVING COORDINATION; WE DO NOT SEEK TO RUSH PROCESS.

-- WE ARE NOT RPT NOT PROPOSING PROGRAMS OR ACTIVITIES THAT MIGHT BE DIFFICULT FOR OTHER ALLIES TO ENDORSE.

-- LANGUAGE MERELY REITERATES LONG-STANDING PUBLIC U.S. SUPPORT OF SPAIN'S EVENTUAL ENTRY INTO NATO.

-- LANGUAGE ESSENTIAL FOR CONCLUSION OF AGREEMENT
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AND RETENTION OF FACILITIES IMPORTANT TO WESTERN DEFENSE.

APART FROM CONVINCING ALLIES THEY SHOULD NOT OPPOSE NATO-RELATED ASPECTS OF PROPOSED U.S.-SPANISH AGREEMENT, WE MIGHT REMIND THEM THAT:

-- WE THINK SPAIN'S PRUDENT PROGRESS SINCE KING

JUAN CARLOS' INVESTITURE MERITS SYMPATHETIC
SUPPORT.

-- WE WOULD HOPE THAT THOSE ALLIES WHO FEEL THEY
CAN WILL CONSIDER PRACTICAL, UNDRAMATIC FORMS
OF COOPERATION WITH SPAIN THAT WILL DRAW IT
CLOSER TO WEST EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS.

-- THIS IS BEST WAY TO HELP SPAIN PURSUE A STABLE
AND MODERATE EVOLUTIONARY COURSE. END QUOTE

5. LIKE THE ISRAELIS, THE SPANISH ARE ALREADY OUT
A LAP AHEAD LEAKING THAT TREATY HAS BEEN AGREED AND
WILL BE SIGNED WHEN YOU ARRIVE THIS WEEKEND. WE ARE
EMPHASIZING NEGOTIATIONS STILL IN PROGRESS, IMPORTANT
ISSUES STILL UNRESOLVED, THIS SHOULD NOT BE CONFUSED
WITH OUR WILLINGNESS TO CONSIDER TREATY FORM,
BUT REMAIN HOPEFUL IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO COMPLETE
NEGOTIATION AND SIGN WHILE YOU ARE HERE.
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